

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 07679 071351Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----120680 072218Z /15

R 071015Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8532
INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 7679

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PEPR, MNUC, PK, US
SUBJECT: PAKISTANI PRESS CRITICISM OF USG OVER REPROCESSING
PLANT

1. DURING LAST FEW DAYS PAK PRESS CARRIED DAILY ARTICLES
AND EDITORIALS CASTIGATING USG OVER US OPPOSITION TO NUCLEAR
REPROCESSING PLANT. COMMENTARIES, WHILE STRONGLY CRITICAL
OF US POLICIES, ARE NOT INCENDIARY AND RANGE IN TONE FROM
INDIGNATION TO MORE-IN-SORROW-THAN-IN-ANGER. WE HAVE
BEEN CONSIDERING PROS AND CONS OF ISSUING CLARIFICATIONS
AND REBUTTALS TO SOME OF THE UNJUSTIFIED CRITICISMS (AFTER
CONSULTATIONS WITH DEPT) AND HAVE CONCLUDED THAT LITTLE
PURPOSE WOULD BE SERVED AT THIS TIME. THIS IS BEGINNING OF
LONG PROCESS, NEXT EVENT OF WHICH WILL BE FRENCH REPLY TO
GEN ZIA'S RECLAMA LETTER, AND WE THINK WE SHOULD WITHHOLD
ANY REBUTTALS UNTIL AFTER THAT EVENT.

2. MAIN THEMES OF CRITICISMS ARE:

--USG IS ATTEMPTING TO PUT PRESSURE ON ONGOING DISCUSSIONS
BETWEEN GOP AND FRENCH BY STIMULATING PUBLICITY ABOUT SUS-
PENSION OF NEW AID.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 07679 071351Z

--USG, ALTHOUGH ADMITTING THERE IS NO LEGAL REQUIREMENT TO
CUT OFF NEW AID, HAS "VIOLATED ITS OWN LAWS" BY DOING SO
IN ORDER TO PRESSURE GOP.

--ACTION IS UNJUSTIFIED AND DISCRIMINATORY, BEING BASICALLY
ANTI-MUSLIM, ANTI-THIRD WORLD, AND AN ATTEMPT TO DENY DE-

VELOPING COUNTRIES THE BENEFITS OF NUCLEAR ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION.

--USG'S AGREEMENT TO FURNISH FUEL TO INDIA'S TARAPUR REACTOR SHOWS ANTI-PAK BIAS, AND IS REMINISCENT OF USG CUTOFF OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN 1965 AND 1971 WARS WITH INDIA WHICH WORKED TO INDIA'S ADVANTAGE. ETC, ETC.

3. MANY OF THESE THEMES ARE FAMILIAR, HAVING CROPPED UP FROM TIME TO TIME EVER SINCE HAK SURFACED USG-OP CONFRONTATION OVER THE FRENCH PLANT IN AUGUST 1976. THERE IS SUBSTANTIAL PUBLIC AGREEMENT THAT USG IS NOT DOING RIGHT IN ITS NON-PROLIFERATION POLICIES, AND WE THINK GOP HAS STIMULATED WRITERS AND EDITORS TO WRITE HIGHLY CRITICAL ARTICLES. FROM GOP POINT OF VIEW, US SIDE HELPED TO START PUBLIC DEBATE BY ANSWERING REPORTERS FACTUAL QUESTIONS IN WASH, RESULTING IN REUTERS STORY BEING PLAYED HERE AUG 5 (ISLAMABAD 7591). MOREOVER, GOP HAS ITS OWN NEED, AS WE HAVE ALL RECOGNIZED, TO DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST DOMESTIC PAK CRITICISMS OF SOFTNESS, INEPTNESS (AS CHARGED BY EDITORIAL IN PPP'S MUSAWAT) OR SECRET COLLUSION, ON REPROCESSING PLANT ISSUE. APPARENTLY IN REACTION TO REUTERS STORY, GOP HAS CHOSEN TO EXPOSE ONLY PART OF THE ISSUE, REALIZING PERHAPS THAT EXPECTED FRENCH CANCELLATION WILL BECOME PUBLIC SOON. EXISTENCE OF ZIA LETTER TO GISCARD HAS BEEN MENTIONED IN PRESS, BUT DOES NOT YET FORM CENTRAL THEME, AND FRENCH SPOKESMAN'S SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ISLAMA 07679 071351Z

STATEMENT (PARIS 24312) HAS NOT BEEN MENTIONED.

4. WE WILL, OF COURSE, WANT TO PUT ON RECORD BEFORE PAK PUBLIC THE LOGIC AND APPLICATION OF OUR NON-PROLIFERATION POLICY ; THE QUESTION IS WHEN WE SHOULD START TO DO THIS. TOP LEVELS OF GOP ALREADY HAVE HEARD AND GRASPED OUR LOGIC, EVEN THOUGH THEY DO NOT AGREE WITH IT. ON BALANCE WE THINK WE SHOULD HOLD OUR EXPLANATIONS AND REBUTTALS UNTIL WE CAN SIMULTANEOUSLY DISCUSS RESUMPTION OF US ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, AFTER FRENCH LOWER THE BOOM. WE WILL KEEP SITUATION UNDER REVIEW.
HUMMEL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLICIES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ISLAMA07679
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P850103-2246
Format: TEL
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780893/aaaaczrp.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fe6d1d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, EXDIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS, EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1822272
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAKISTANI PRESS CRITICISM OF USG OVER REPROCESSING PLANT
TAGS: PEPR, MNUC, SOPN, PK, US
To: STATE KARACHI MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fe6d1d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014